

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF PEPPERELL
Commemorating 100 Years
Historical Moment

Community Church Real Estate

For today's historical moment, let us look at the history of the parsonages and the parish house that have belonged to the Community Church. The first parcel of real estate that belonged to the church was its first parsonage located at 10 Park Street. During the ministry of John Bullard from 1779 to 1821 the First Parish Church gave him a large parcel of land along Park Street. Between 1817 and the 1840s, parcels of this land were sold as house lots. Around 1840 Charles Tarbell built the house at 10 Park Street. On April 13, 1872, he sold the property to the Evangelical Congregational Church to serve as a parsonage. The sale price was \$3000. The property continued to serve as a parsonage until 1963.

The second piece of real estate is the present Parish House. As early as 1832, when the first Evangelical Congregational Church was built here, a house and ell, known as the Mace building, served as a residence as well as a store and post office. John Loring and his nephew Charles D. Hutchinson operated the store from 1872 until December 29, 1878, when Mr. Loring died. Upon purchasing its contents, Mr. Hutchinson continued to operate the store and succeeded Mr Loring as postmaster. In August 1905 the wood Mace Building was torn down and replaced by the present brick building. There is a 1901 picture of the wooden Hutchinson store and other information about the Parish House in the bathroom near the church offices.

In 1912 Charles Hutchinson purchased the building and, upon his death in 1914, left the building and business to his son Harry W. Hutchinson. Harry W. Hutchinson was succeeded by William Greenwood and Charles Maynard. The store became a Red & White Market, known as Maynard's Store. There were gas pumps in front of the store during the 1930s. In 1945 Anthony J. Stewart purchased the building and continued to operate the Red & White Market. He added a snack bar that was accessed by the door located on Townsend Street. Mr. Stewart and his large family lived in the apartment above the store. In 1963 Mr Stewart closed his business and transferred the building to the Community Church in exchange for the parsonage at 10 Park Street.

The final piece of real estate is at 67 Townsend St. In November 1966, Ruth M. Caldwell bequeathed the property to the church in her will. It was used as a parsonage until the late 1990s when the property was sold and the proceeds deposited into the church's restricted investment funds. The property is presently for sale. Our next historical moment will cover the education commission.

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